

Tennessee Department of Correction:

An Historical Journey

Average Cost Per Inmate

- In 1898, the cost to house an inmate for one year was approximately \$117.48 (.32/day).
- By 1918, this cost had risen to approximately \$230.57 (.63/day).
- In 2006, the average daily cost to house an inmate was \$58.91 or approximately \$21,502.15 annually.

Politically Incorrect?.....

- “Insane and incurable”
- “Some become insane here; others are sent here (strange as it may seem) that way.”
(TDOC Annual Report: Report of the Warden - 1884)
- “There are a few insane and demented prisoners.....” (TDOC Annual Report: 1900-02)
- Tennessee School for the Deaf and Dumb.
- Home for Feeble-minded Persons.

1884 - “Innovations?”

“Abandoned solitary confinement, starving on bread and water, tying up by the thumbs”
seeing it as “cruel, unnatural and inhuman.”

(TDOC Annual Report: Report of the Warden - 1884)

Unusual Crimes?

- Drawing an Arkansas Toothpick (bowie knife)
- Begetting a child on wife's sister.
- Killing a bull.
- Burning a boat.
- Whitecapping (Threaten & intimidate).
- Violating Postal Law.
- Releasing prisoner from jail.
- Going masked.
- Crime against nature.

“A picture

is worth

a thousand words.....”



State Prison Farm - 1897



Power Plant - 1900



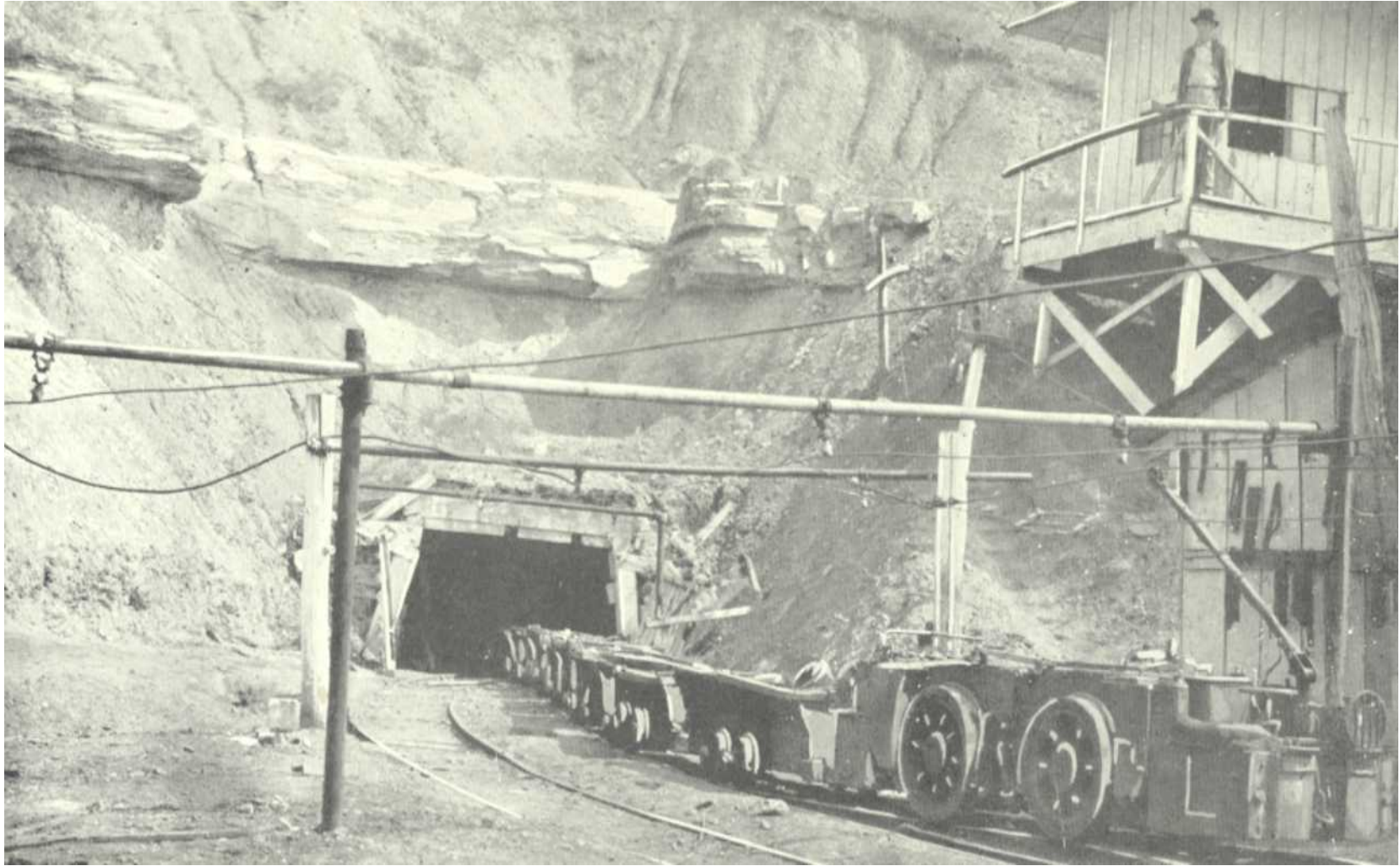
Prisoners in line entering dining hall at Main Prison- 1902



Bloodhounds at the State Prison Farm - 1902



Main Prison in Nashville - 1902



Brushy Mountain Coal Mine - 1922



Brushy Mountain Sleeping Quarters - 1922



Dairy Farm - 1922

**Tennessee State
Penitentiary:
1922**





Feeble Minded Institution: Administration Building - 1922



Fort Pillow - Canning Green Beans: 1941



TSP - Death House: 1946



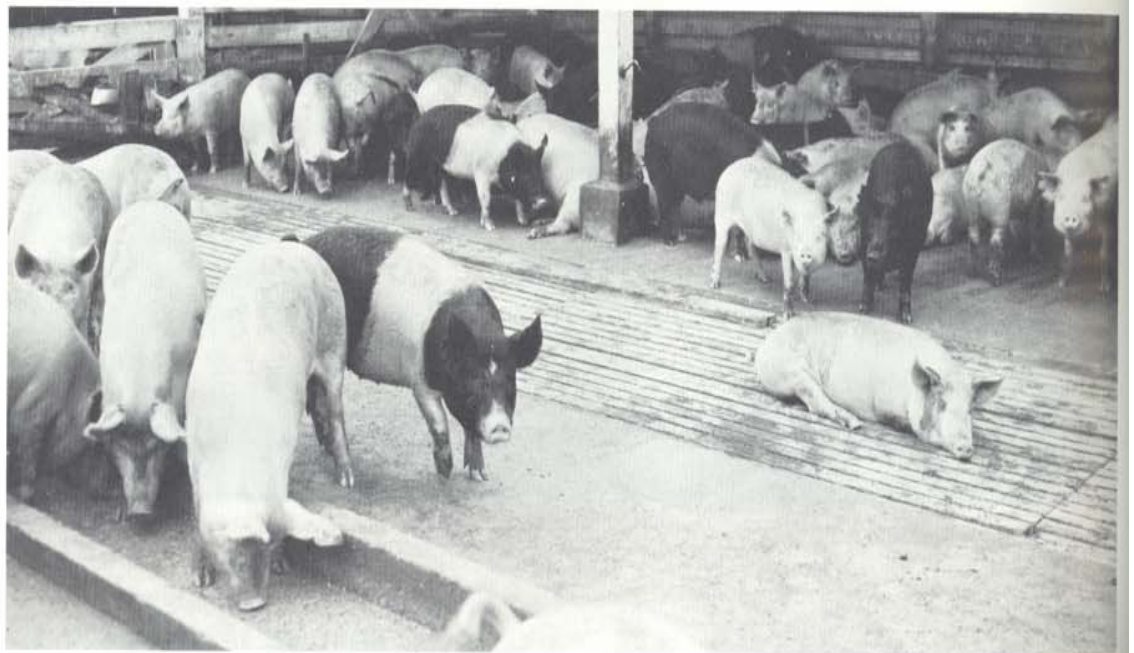
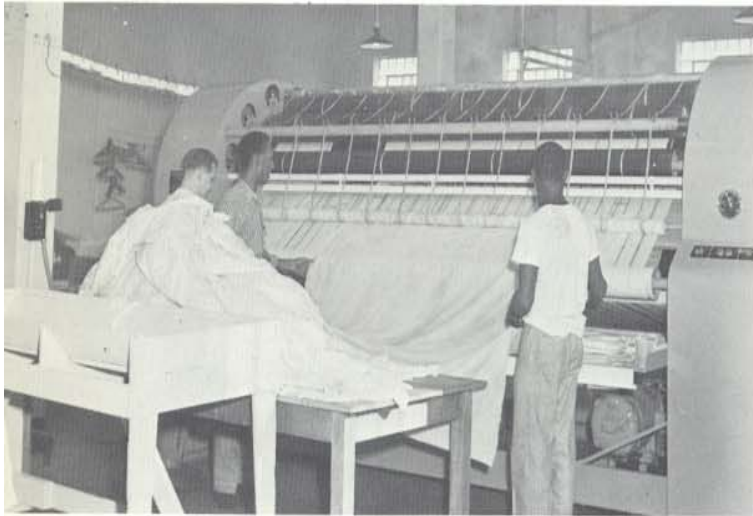
TSP - Inmates working on Cell Block: 1962



TSP - Inmates working on roof



Brushy Mountain Correctional Complex - 1966



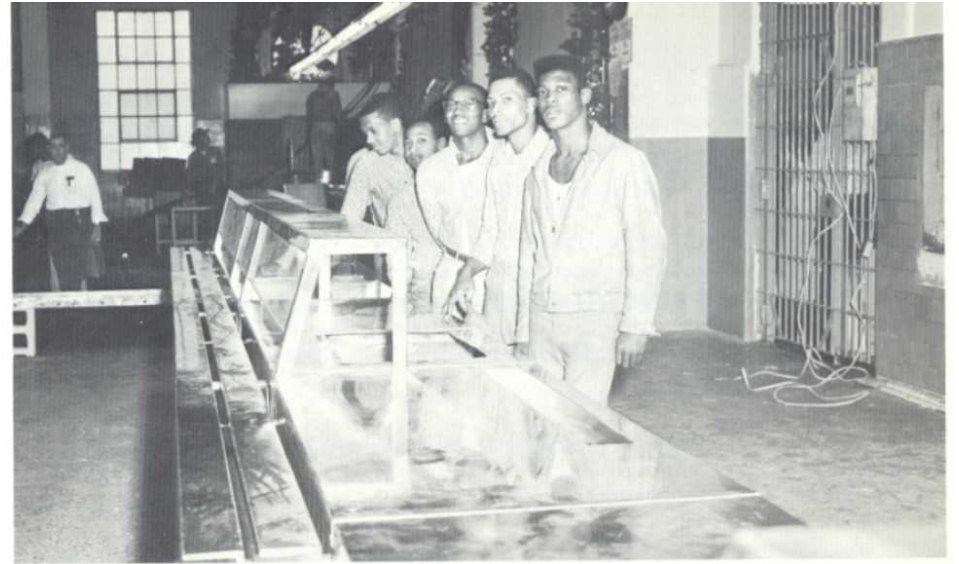
Fort Pillow State Farm - 1966



**“New”
Cells at
Brushy
Mountain**



Tennessee State Penitentiary - 1966



TSP - 1966





Tennessee State Industries

TSP: 1966





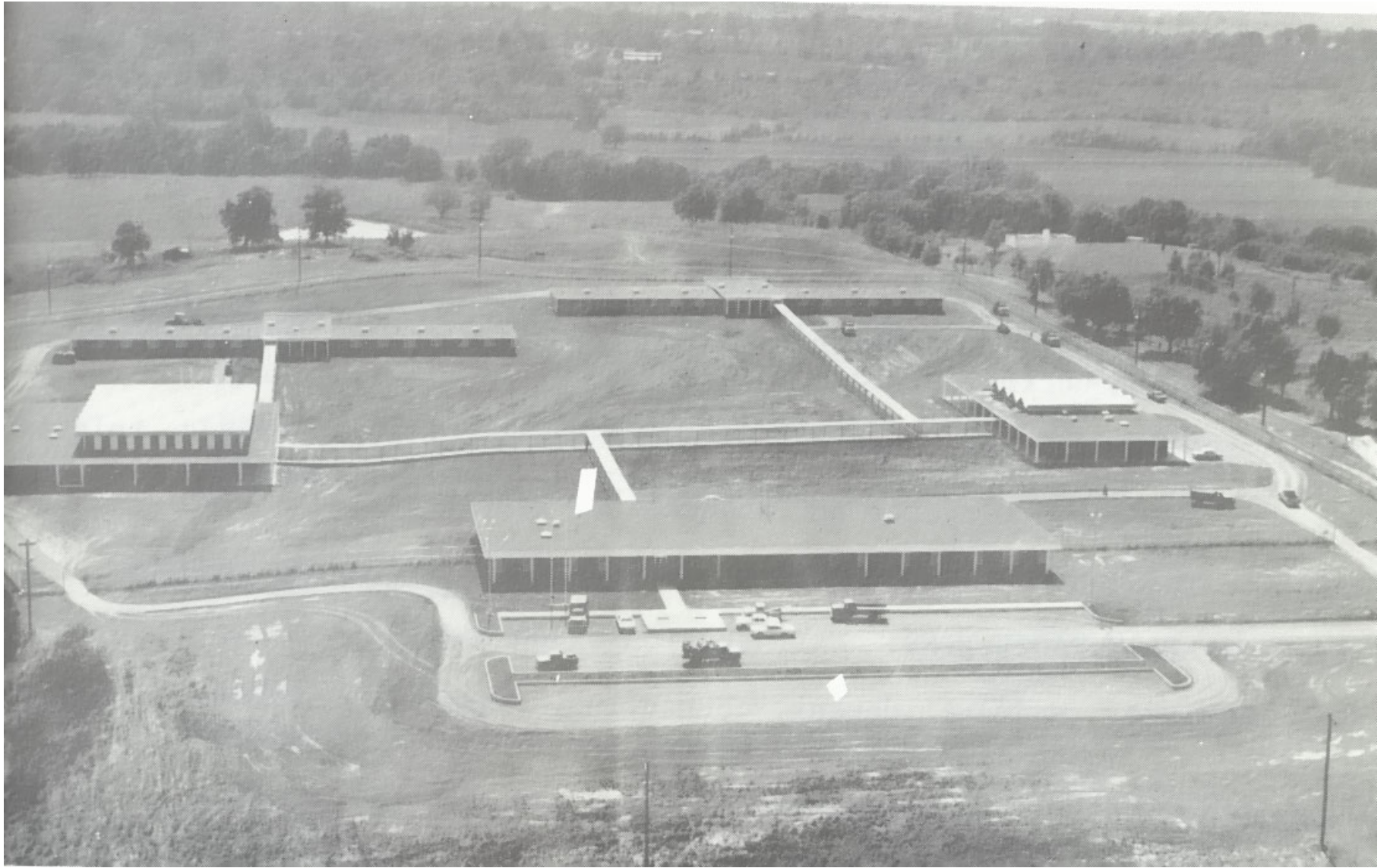
Tullahoma School for Girls-1966 Future Site of Tennessee Correctional Academy



Tennessee State Penitentiary-Women's Unit - 1966



Turney Center and Industrial Prison - 1970



Tennessee Prison for Women - 1970

Most of the current TDOC
institutions are of similar
design.....



DeBerry Special Needs Facility



Northwest Correctional Complex

More people.....more prisons.....

*Brushy Mountain Correctional
Complex
&
Morgan County Correctional
Complex*

Due to the increased demand for prison beds and the need to limit excessive costs, TDOC has begun the process of building a new facility in Morgan County. This facility will increase total TDOC capacity and replace the aging BMCX.



MORGAN COUNTY CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX

Morgan County Expansion

Snapshots in progress 2007:

The following three snapshots represent the pre-fabricated cells that will be utilized at this facility.

Completion is expected in 2009.







Programming &

Prison Work has

changed.....



Inmate Construction Workers



Inmates Knitting at TPW



TRICOR



Overnight Child Visitation Program - TPW



Woodworking & Carpentry

Community Service



Inmate Work Crews

And there has been an increased focus on rehabilitation.....

- In 2005, TDOC developed two transition communities within the prisons to prepare offenders to live successfully in the free world. The goal is to change negative patterns of thinking and behaviors that predispose people to drug abuse, criminal activities, and other anti-social behaviors. Victim awareness and job readiness are also parts of the program.

To be continued.....

Researched & Compiled by:

Tennessee Department of Correction

Division of Policy, Planning, & Research

NOTE: A special thanks is extended to Ms. Sara Conte who researched and compiled the majority of information contained within this document.